

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07125 081351Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 NIC-01 DRC-01

PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 ACDA-19 /124 W

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R 081254Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4093

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 116"2: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, IR

SUBJECT: GOI-BBC DISPUTE CONTINUES

REF: TEHRAN 7076

1. IN SERIES OF ARTICLES IN PRESS AND SLOTS ON BROADCAST MEDIA GOI CONTINUING DISPUTE WITH BBC OVER PROGRAMMING DEEMED UNFAVORABLE TO IRAN. BRITISH BROADCASTS DESCRIBED

AS INACCURATE, DELIBERATELY SLANTED AND COMPARED WITH RADIO BAGHDAD PROPAGANDA. AT SAME TIME IRANIAN PRESS HAS INDULGED IN NUMBER OF GRATUITOUS ASSAULTS NOT ONLY ON BBC BUT ON UK AS WELL WHICH CHARACTERIZE BRITAIN AS PATRONIZING AND HARBORING COLONIALIST ATTITUDES OF SUPERIORITY WHILE DOUBTING IRAN'S ABILITY TO MODERNIZE OR NEED FOR ARMS BUILDUP.

2. LOCAL BBC CORRESPONDENT JOHN BIERMAN, WHO HAS RECEIVED EXTENSION OF HIS EXPULSION DEADLINE TO OCTOBER 11, IS QUITE BITTER ABOUT HIS DEPARTURE. IN HEAVY OVERSTATEMENT HE OPINED THAT BBC INCIDENT IS DESIGNED TO GET HIM OUT OF COUNTRY AND FRIGHTEN REMAINING FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS. COMMENT: BBC CORRESPONDENT LAST EXPELLED FROM IRAN TWO YEARS AGO FOR DISPATCHING ALLEGEDLY BIASED REPORTS. FACT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THIS IS SECOND TIME THAT BBC HAS BEEN EMBROILED WITH

GOI MAY HELP TO EXPLAIN PRESS CAMPAIGN BUT, ON BALANCE,  
IRANIAN OVERREACTION TO BRITISH BROADCASTS SEEMS SIMILAR  
IN TONE TO HARSH NOTES RECENTLY GIVEN TO COMMONWEALTH AMBASSADORS  
IN TEHRAN FOLLOWING INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER' REMARKS REGARDING  
ARMS RACE IN GULF.  
HELMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPULSION, TELEVISION BROADCASTING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TEHRAN07125  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** TEHRAN 7076  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <10-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOI-BBC DISPUTE CONTINUES  
**TAGS:** PINS, PFOR, IR, UK, BBC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005